

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The freedom and security citizens of the United States enjoy today are direct results of the blood shed and continued vigilance given by the United States Armed Forces over the history of our great nation; and,

Whereas, The sacrifices such members of the United States Armed Forces and of the family members who support them, have preserved the liberties that have enriched this nation making it unique in the world community; and,

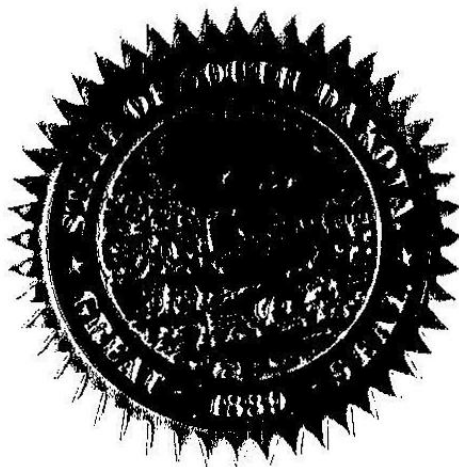
Whereas, Of the more than 500,000 National Guard and Reservists activated nationwide for "Operation Iraqi Freedom" and "Operation Enduring Freedom," nearly 4,500 are South Dakotans, many of whom will be activated for at least 1 year in service to both South Dakota and the nation; and,

Whereas, In 2004, the United States Congress passed a resolution proclaiming May as National Military Appreciation Month, calling all Americans to remember those who gave their lives in defense of freedom and to honor the men and women of all our Armed Services who have served and are now serving our country, together with their families:

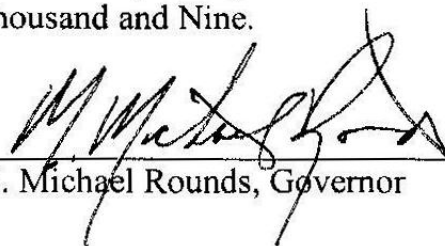
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 1 through June 14, 2009, as

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH


in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens, businesses, and government leaders to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support, and thank our military families.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-seventh Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State